

REMARKS

Claims 186-211, 215-222, 229-259, and 228 remain pending. Claims 1-185, 212-214, and 223-227 have been cancelled. The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 229-259 are allowable. The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 186-211, 215-222, and 228 are objected to as being dependent on a base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

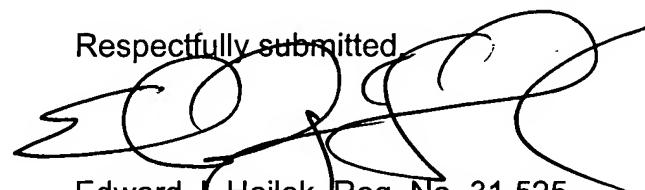
Claims 186, 206, and 215 have each been drafted in independent form to include all requirements of former base claim 159. Independent claim 229 and dependent claim 230 have been amended to place functional language at the end of the claim for enhanced readability, but the amendments do not change the scope of the claims. Independent claim 250 was amended to enhance readability but the scope of the claim remains unchanged.

CONCLUSION

Applicant appreciates the Office's thorough consideration of the subject application, as amended. In light of the foregoing, Applicants request an entry of the claim amendments and solicit allowance of the claims. The Office is invited to contact the undersigned attorney should any issue remain unsolved.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment and credit any overpayment of government fees to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,



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